GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2029
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002
INTER-STATE RIVERS TRIBUNAL
NIVEDITA MANE;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK;SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to constitute any Inter-State Rivers Tribunal to solve river disputes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) As per the amended Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 Section4(1) "When any request under section 3 is received from any State Government in respect of any water dispute and the Central Government is of opinion that the water dispute cannot be settled by negotiations, the Central Government shall, within a period not exceeding one year from the date of receipt of such request, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a Water Disputes Tribunal for the adjudication of the water disputes". Accordingly, the Central Government constitutes tribunal for specific disputes for adjudication.

The Central Government has received requests under section 3 of the said Act from the States of Goa and Karnataka for referring to the tribunals the disputes relating to sharing of Mahadayi/Mandovi river water and sharing of surplus water of Krishna river for adjudication and decision in July 2002 and September 2002 respectively. Central Government has initiated steps for finding a negotiated settlement of the disputes failing which Water Disputes Tribunals shall be constituted for their adjudication.